

STATINTL

Nixon Insists Kennedy Was Briefed on Cuba

Former Vice President Says Eisenhower Confirms Instructions Given to CIA

BY CARL G. LOMBARD
President Kennedy received at Times Political Editor during the campaign of 1960. Former Vice President but on personal conversations with responsible individuals who had knowledge of the facts. Nixon said Wednesday his charges that President Kennedy endangered the nation's secret Cuban invasion plans during the 1960 campaign were personally researched.

Nixon said he has conferred with former President Eisenhower at Palm Desert and that Gen. Eisenhower told him he had ordered Mr. Kennedy fully briefed on foreign problems during the campaign.

President Kennedy at his Washington press conference Wednesday said the issue is closed as far as he is concerned.

"I thought that Tuesday's statements by the White House and Mr. Dulles were very clear, and I think that closes the matter. The earlier statement was that Nixon's assertion was apparently based on a misunderstanding."

Nixon Replies

Nixon said:

"Because the Cuba issue was such an important one in the campaign, I personally researched the facts relating to it."

"The statements in my book, 'Six Crises,' were based not only on the public press accounts of the briefings

campaign got personally angry at then Sen. Kennedy for putting him at a disadvantage.

As a result, Nixon said, he was forced to claim the Kennedy position was irresponsible. In fact, he had stated during the Eisenhower administration that the administration take a stronger position against Castro.

Mr. Kennedy claims Cuba was mentioned in two CIA briefings before the Presi-

dential election. But he insists that he didn't know of an invasion operation until Nov. 18, 1960, when he was briefed at Palm Beach by Allen Dulles, former CIA head, and Richard Bissell of CIA.

Dulles supported Mr. Kennedy's disclaimer, saying his pre-election briefings of the President - to - he "did not cover our own government's plans or programs for action, overt or covert."

President Eisenhower has authorized me to state that, following the practice he established in 1956, he had given instructions that in regard to U.S. intelligence activities abroad, Sen. Kennedy was to be as fully briefed on our foreign problems as I was.

"Beyond this I have no further comment. My book speaks for itself."

He did not name the "responsible individuals."

Charges Recalled

Nixon charges that after receiving Central Intelligence Agency briefings on U.S. invasion plans, Mr. Kennedy, in October, 1960, advocated U.S. intervention in Cuba.

He contended he was shocked and for the first time in the Presidential cam-